House File 2587 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2587

BY COMMITTEE ON STATE

GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 545)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to voting and the administration of elections,
- 2 and including effective date provisions.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1	DIVISION I
2	ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS
3	Section 1. NEW SECTION. 39.5 Petitions — requirements.
4	In addition to any other information required by law, a
5	petition relating to any elective office, election, or the
6	administration of elections must include the printed name,
7	signature, address, and phone number of the person responsible
8	for circulating the petition page.
9	Sec. 2. Section 43.36, Code 2020, is amended to read as
10	follows:
11	43.36 Australian ballot.
12	The Australian ballot system as now used in this state,
13	except as herein modified, shall be used at said primary
14	election. The endorsement of the precinct election officials
15	and the county auditor's seal shall appear upon the ballots
16	as provided for general elections. The county auditor's
17	seal shall contain the name of the county, the word "county"
18	which may be abbreviated, and the word "Iowa", and the seal
19	may contain the word "auditor" which may be abbreviated, but
20	shall not contain the name of the county auditor or any elected
21	official.
22	Sec. 3. Section 48A.30, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code
23	2020, is amended to read as follows:
24	a. The registered voter dies. For the purposes of this
25	subsection, the commissioner may accept as evidence of death a
26	notice from the state registrar of vital statistics forwarded
27	by the state registrar of voters, a notice from the federal
28	social security administration, a written statement from a
29	person related to the registered voter within the second degree
30	of consanguinity or first degree of affinity, an obituary
31	in a newspaper or that appears on the internet site of a
32	funeral establishment licensed under chapter 156 or by the
33	proper authority of another state, a written statement from an
34	election official or personal representative of the registered
35	voter's estate, or a notice from the county recorder of the

- 1 county where the registered voter died.
- Sec. 4. Section 49.31, subsection 2, paragraph c, Code 2020,
- 3 is amended to read as follows:
- 4 c. On the general election ballot the names of candidates
- 5 for the nonpartisan offices listed in section 39.21 shall
- 6 be arranged by drawing lots for position. The commissioner
- 7 shall hold the drawing on the first business day following the
- 8 deadline for filing of nomination certificates or petitions
- 9 with the commissioner for the general election pursuant to
- 10 section 44.4 sixty-eighth day before the general election. If
- ll a candidate withdraws, dies, or is removed from the ballot
- 12 after the ballot position of names has been determined, such
- 13 candidate's name shall be removed from the ballot, and the
- 14 order of the remaining names shall not be changed.
- 15 Sec. 5. Section 49.51, Code 2020, is amended to read as
- 16 follows:
- 17 49.51 Commissioner to control printing.
- 18 The commissioner shall have charge of the printing of the
- 19 ballots to be used for any election held in the county. The
- 20 ballot shall include the seal of the county auditor under
- 21 whose direction the ballot is printed. The county auditor's
- 22 seal shall contain the name of the county, the word "county"
- 23 which may be abbreviated, and the word "Iowa", and the seal
- 24 may contain the word "auditor" which may be abbreviated, but
- 25 shall not contain the name of the county auditor or any elected
- 26 official.
- 27 Sec. 6. Section 49.57, subsection 6, Code 2020, is amended
- 28 to read as follows:
- 29 6. A portion of the ballot shall include the words "Official
- 30 ballot", the unique identification number or name assigned by
- 31 the commissioner to the ballot style, the date of the election,
- 32 and the county auditor's seal of the county of the commissioner
- 33 who has caused the ballot to be printed pursuant to section
- 34 49.51. The county auditor's seal shall contain the name of
- 35 the county, the word "county" which may be abbreviated, and

- 1 the word "Iowa", and the seal may contain the word "auditor"
- 2 which may be abbreviated, but shall not contain the name of the
- 3 county auditor or any elected official.
- 4 Sec. 7. Section 49.75, Code 2020, is amended to read as
- 5 follows:
- 6 49.75 Oath.
- 7 l. Before opening the polls, each of the board members shall
- 8 take the following oath:
- 9 I, A. B., do solemnly swear or affirm that I will
- 10 impartially, and to the best of my knowledge and ability,
- 11 perform the duties of precinct election official of this
- 12 election, and will studiously endeavor to prevent fraud,
- 13 deceit, and abuse in conducting the election.
- 14 I understand that as a precinct election official, I have
- 15 access to certain information that is considered confidential
- 16 and is protected under Code chapters 22, 48A, and 715C. Due to
- 17 this protected status, I agree to only release this information
- 18 in accordance with Iowa law.
- 19 Additionally, I understand that the prohibition on sharing
- 20 confidential information extends before and after the hours
- 21 that my assigned polling place is open.
- 22 2. The state commissioner shall provide training on the
- 23 handling of confidential information to each board member.
- 24 Sec. 8. Section 49.78, subsection 4, Code 2020, is amended
- 25 to read as follows:
- 26 4. A person who is registered to vote but is unable
- 27 to present a form of identification under subsection 2 or
- 28 3 may establish identity and residency in the precinct by
- 29 written oath of a person who is also registered to vote in
- 30 the precinct. Before signing an oath under this subsection,
- 31 the attesting registered voter shall present to the precinct
- 32 election official proof of the voter's identity as provided
- 33 in subsection 2 or 3. The attesting registered voter's oath
- 34 shall attest to the stated identity of the person wishing to
- 35 vote and that the person is a current resident of the precinct.

- 1 The oath must be signed by the attesting registered voter in
- 2 the presence of the appropriate precinct election official.
- 3 A registered voter who has signed two oaths on election day
- 4 attesting to a person's identity and residency as provided in
- 5 this subsection is prohibited from signing any further oaths as
- 6 provided in this subsection on that day.
- 7 Sec. 9. Section 50.51, subsection 5, Code 2020, is amended
- 8 to read as follows:
- 9 5. In advance of any all other election elections, the state
- 10 commissioner may shall order an audit of the election in the
- 11 manner provided in this section.
- 12 Sec. 10. Section 53.2, subsection 4, paragraph a,
- 13 unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2020, is amended to read as
- 14 follows:
- 15 Each application shall contain the following information To
- 16 request an absentee ballot, a registered voter shall provide:
- 17 Sec. 11. Section 53.2, subsection 4, paragraph b, Code 2020,
- 18 is amended to read as follows:
- 19 b. If insufficient information has been provided, including
- 20 the absence of a voter verification number, either on the
- 21 prescribed form or on an application created by the applicant,
- 22 the commissioner shall, by the best means available, obtain
- 23 the additional necessary information within twenty-four hours
- 24 after the receipt of the absentee ballot request, contact the
- 25 applicant by telephone and electronic mail, if such information
- 26 has been provided by the applicant. If the commissioner is
- 27 unable to contact the applicant by telephone or electronic
- 28 mail, the commissioner shall send a notice to the applicant
- 29 at the address where the applicant is registered to vote, or
- 30 to the applicant's mailing address if it is different from
- 31 the residential address. If the applicant has requested the
- 32 ballot to be sent to an address that is not the applicant's
- 33 residential or mailing address, the commissioner shall send an
- 34 additional notice to the address where the applicant requested
- 35 the ballot to be sent. A commissioner shall not use the voter

- 1 registration system to obtain additional necessary information
- 2 unless all other means to obtain such information have been
- 3 exhausted. A voter requesting or casting a ballot pursuant
- 4 to section 53.22 shall not be required to provide a voter
- 5 verification number. The state commissioner shall adopt rules
- 6 to implement this section.
- 7 Sec. 12. Section 53.22, subsection 3, Code 2020, is amended
- 8 to read as follows:
- 9 3. Any registered voter who becomes a patient, tenant, or
- 10 resident of a hospital, assisted living program, or health care
- 11 facility in the county where the voter is registered to vote
- 12 within three days prior to the date of any election after the
- 13 deadline to make a written application for an absentee ballot
- 14 pursuant to section 53.2 or on election day may request an
- 15 absentee ballot during that period or on election day. As an
- 16 alternative to the application procedure prescribed by section
- 17 53.2, the registered voter may make the request directly to
- 18 the officers who are delivering and returning absentee ballots
- 19 under this section. Alternatively, the request may be made by
- 20 telephone to the office of the commissioner not later than four
- 21 hours before the close of the polls. If the requester is found
- 22 to be a registered voter of that county, these officers shall
- 23 deliver the appropriate absentee ballot to the registered voter
- 24 in the manner prescribed by this section.
- 25 Sec. 13. Section 53.22, subsection 6, paragraph a, Code
- 26 2020, is amended to read as follows:
- 27 a. If the registered voter becomes a patient, tenant, or
- 28 resident of a hospital, assisted living program, or health
- 29 care facility outside the county where the voter is registered
- 30 to vote within three days before the date of any election
- 31 after the deadline to make a written application for an
- 32 absentee ballot pursuant to section 53.2 or on election day,
- 33 the voter may designate a person to deliver and return the
- 34 absentee ballot. The designee may be any person the voter
- 35 chooses except that no candidate for any office to be voted

- 1 upon for the election for which the ballot is requested may
- 2 deliver a ballot under this subsection. The request for an
- 3 absentee ballot may be made by telephone to the office of the
- 4 commissioner not later than four hours before the close of the
- 5 polls. If the requester is found to be a registered voter of
- 6 that county, the ballot shall be delivered by mail or by the
- 7 person designated by the voter. An application form shall be
- 8 included with the absentee ballot and shall be signed by the
- 9 voter and returned with the ballot.
- 10 Sec. 14. Section 53.49, Code 2020, is amended to read as 11 follows:
- 12 53.49 Applicable to armed forces and other citizens.
- 13 The provisions of this subchapter as to absent voting shall
- 14 apply only to absent voters in the armed forces of the United
- 15 States as defined for the purpose of absentee voting in section
- 16 53.37. The provisions of sections 53.1 through 53.34 53.33
- 17 shall apply to all other voters not members of the armed forces
- 18 of the United States.
- 19 Sec. 15. Section 99F.7, subsection 11, paragraph a, Code
- 20 2020, is amended to read as follows:
- 21 a. A license to conduct gambling games in a county shall
- 22 be issued only if the county electorate approves the conduct
- 23 of the gambling games as provided in this subsection. The
- 24 board of supervisors, upon receipt of a valid petition meeting
- 25 the requirements of section 331.306, and subject to the
- 26 requirements of paragraph "e", shall direct the commissioner of
- 27 elections to submit to the registered voters of the county a
- 28 proposition to approve or disapprove the conduct of gambling
- 29 games in the county. The proposition shall be submitted at an
- 30 election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection
- 31 4, paragraph "a". To be submitted at a general election, the
- 32 petition must be received by the board of supervisors at least
- 33 five working days before the last day for candidates for county
- 34 offices to file nomination papers for the general election
- 35 pursuant to section 44.4. If a majority of the county voters

- 1 voting on the proposition favor the conduct of gambling games,
- 2 the commission may issue one or more licenses as provided in
- 3 this chapter. If a majority of the county voters voting on
- 4 the proposition do not favor the conduct of gambling games, a
- 5 license to conduct gambling games in the county shall not be
- 6 issued.
- 7 Sec. 16. Section 277.4, subsection 4, Code 2020, is amended
- 8 to read as follows:
- 9 4. Any person on whose behalf nomination petitions have
- 10 been filed under this section may withdraw as a candidate by
- 11 filing a signed statement to that effect with the secretary at
- 12 any time prior to 5:00 p.m. on the thirty-fifth day before the
- 13 election consistent with section 44.9, subsection 5.
- 14 Sec. 17. REPEAL. Section 53.34, Code 2020, is repealed.
- 15 Sec. 18. REPEAL. 2017 Iowa Acts, chapter 155, section 1,
- 16 is repealed.
- 17 DIVISION II
- 18 PROCEDURES FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE IOWA CONSTITUTION
- 19 Sec. 19. Section 49.43, subsection 2, Code 2020, is amended
- 20 to read as follows:
- 2. Constitutional amendments and other public measures may
- 22 shall be summarized by the commissioner as provided in sections
- 23 49.44 and 52.25.
- 24 Sec. 20. Section 49.44, subsection 1, Code 2020, is amended
- 25 to read as follows:
- 26 1. When a proposed constitutional amendment or other public
- 27 measure to be decided by the voters of the entire state is to
- 28 be voted upon, the state commissioner shall prepare a written
- 29 summary of the amendment or measure including the number of
- 30 the amendment or statewide public measure assigned by the
- 31 state commissioner. The summary shall be printed immediately
- 32 preceding the text of the proposed amendment or measure on the
- 33 paper ballot or optical scan ballot referred to in section
- 34 49.43. If the complete text of the proposed amendment or
- 35 public measure will not fit on the ballot it shall be posted

- 1 inside the voting booth. A copy of the full text shall be
- 2 included with any absentee ballots.
- 3 Sec. 21. REPEAL. Sections 49A.10 and 49A.11, Code 2020,
- 4 are repealed.
- 5 DIVISION III
- 6 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
- 7 Sec. 22. Section 54.9, Code 2020, is amended to read as
- 8 follows:
- 9 54.9 Compensation.
- 10 The electors shall each receive a compensation of
- 11 five dollars one-half of the federal general services
- 12 administration's per diem rate for the relevant date and
- 13 location for every day's attendance, and the same mileage as
- 14 members of the general assembly which shall be paid from funds
- 15 not otherwise appropriated from the general fund of the state.
- 16 Sec. 23. Section 68.9, subsection 1, Code 2020, is amended
- 17 to read as follows:
- 18 1. When an impeachment is presented, the senate shall, after
- 19 the hour of final adjournment of the legislature as soon as
- 20 practicable, be forthwith organized as a court of impeachment
- 21 for the trial thereof, at the capitol.
- Sec. 24. Section 68.14, Code 2020, is amended to read as
- 23 follows:
- 24 68.14 Compensation fees payment.
- 25 The presiding officer and members of the senate, while
- 26 sitting as a court of impeachment, and the managers elected
- 27 by the house of representatives, shall receive the sum of
- 28 six dollars each per day be compensated the same as for a
- 29 special session of the general assembly, but shall receive
- 30 no additional compensation during a regular session of the
- 31 general assembly, and shall be reimbursed for mileage expense
- 32 in going from and returning to their places of residence by the
- 33 ordinary traveled routes; the secretary, sergeant at arms, and
- 34 all subordinate officers, clerks, and reporters, shall receive
- 35 such amount as shall be determined upon by a majority vote of

1 the members of such court. The same fees shall be allowed to 2 witnesses, to officers, and to other persons serving process or 3 orders, as are allowed for like services in criminal cases, but 4 no fees can be demanded in advance. The state treasurer shall, 5 upon the presentation of certificates signed by the presiding 6 officer and secretary of the senate, pay all of the foregoing 7 compensations and the expenses of the senate incurred under the 8 provisions of this chapter.

9 DIVISION IV

10 CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS

Sec. 25. Section 44.4, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code 2020, 11

12 is amended to read as follows:

13 Nominations made pursuant to this chapter and chapter 14 45 which are required to be filed in the office of the state 15 commissioner shall be filed in that office not more than 16 ninety-nine days nor later than 5:00 p.m. on the eighty-first 17 day before the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June 18 in each even-numbered year. Nominations made for a special 19 election called pursuant to section 69.14 shall be filed by 20 5:00 p.m. not less than twenty-five days before the date of an 21 election called upon at least forty days' notice and not less 22 than fourteen days before the date of an election called upon 23 at least eighteen days' notice. Nominations made for a special 24 election called pursuant to section 69.14A shall be filed by 25 5:00 p.m. not less than twenty-five days before the date of 26 the election. Nominations made pursuant to this chapter and 27 chapter 45 which are required to be filed in the office of 28 the commissioner shall be filed in that office not more than 29 ninety-two days nor later than 5:00 p.m. on the seventy-fourth 30 sixty-ninth day before the first Tuesday after the first Monday 31 in June in each even-numbered year. Nominations made pursuant 32 to this chapter or chapter 45 for city office shall be filed 33 not more than seventy-two days nor later than 5:00 p.m. on the 34 forty-seventh day before the city election with the county 35 commissioner of elections responsible under section 47.2 for

- 1 conducting elections held for the city, who shall process them 2 as provided by law.
- 3 Sec. 26. Section 44.11, Code 2020, is amended to read as 4 follows:
- 5 44.11 Vacancies filled.
- 6 If a candidate named under this chapter withdraws before the
- 7 deadline established in section 44.9, declines a nomination,
- 8 or dies before election day, or if a certificate of nomination
- 9 is held insufficient or inoperative by the officer with whom
- 10 it is required to be filed, or in case any objection made
- 11 to a certificate of nomination, or to the eligibility of any
- 12 candidate named in the certificate, is sustained by the board
- 13 appointed to determine such questions, the vacancy or vacancies
- 14 may be filled by the convention, or caucus, or in such manner
- 15 as such convention or caucus has previously provided. The
- 16 vacancy or vacancies shall be filled not less than seventy-four
- 17 days before the election in the case of nominations required to
- 18 be filed with the state commissioner, not less than sixty-four
- 19 days before the election in the case of nominations required
- 20 to be filed with the commissioner, not less than forty-two
- 21 days before the election in the case of nominations required
- 22 to be filed in the office of the school board secretary, and
- 23 not less than forty-two days before the election in the case
- 24 of nominations required to be filed with the commissioner for
- 25 city elections. When an office shall appear on the general
- 26 election ballot as "to fill a vacancy", nominations made
- 27 pursuant to this chapter or chapter 45 which are required to
- 28 be filed in the office of the state commissioner shall be
- 29 filed in that office not later than the deadline specified in
- 30 section 43.78, subsection 2. When an office shall appear on
- 31 the general election ballot as "to fill a vacancy", nominations
- 32 made pursuant to this chapter or chapter 45 which are required
- 33 to be filed in the office of the commissioner shall be filed in
- 34 that office not later than the deadline specified in section
- 35 43.78, subsection 3.

- 1 Sec. 27. Section 49.53, subsection 1, Code 2020, is amended 2 to read as follows:
- 3 1. The commissioner shall not less than four nor more than
- 4 twenty days before the day of each election, except those for
- 5 which different publication requirements are prescribed by law,
- 6 publish notice of the election. The notice shall contain a
- 7 facsimile of the portion of the ballot containing the first
- 8 rotation as prescribed by section 49.31, subsection 2, and
- 9 shall show list the names of all candidates or nominees and the
- 10 office each seeks, and all public questions, to be voted upon
- 11 at the election. The sample ballot published as a part of the
- 12 notice may at the discretion of the commissioner be reduced in
- 13 size relative to the actual ballot but such reduction shall
- 14 not cause upper case letters appearing in candidates' names or
- 15 in summaries of public measures on the published sample ballot
- 16 to be less than nine point type. The notice shall also state
- 17 the date of the election, the hours the polls will be open,
- 18 that each voter is required to provide identification at the
- 19 polling place before the voter can receive and cast a ballot,
- 20 the location of each polling place at which voting is to occur
- 21 in the election, and the names of the precincts voting at each
- 22 polling place, but the statement need not set forth any fact
- 23 which is apparent from the portion of the ballot appearing as
- 24 a part of the same notice. The notice shall include the full
- 25 text of all public measures to be voted upon at the election.
- 26 The notice may contain one or more facsimiles of the portion
- 27 of the ballot containing the first rotation as prescribed by
- 28 section 49.31, subsection 2.
- Sec. 28. Section 50.44, Code 2020, is amended to read as
- 30 follows:
- 31 **50.44** Tie vote.
- 32 1. If Except as otherwise provided in this section, if more
- 33 than the requisite number of persons, including presidential
- 34 electors, are found to have an equal and the highest number
- 35 of votes, the election of one of them shall be determined by

- 1 lot. The name of each of such candidates shall be written
- 2 on separate pieces of paper, as nearly uniform in size and
- 3 material as possible, and placed in a receptacle so that
- 4 the names cannot be seen. In the presence of the board of
- 5 canvassers, one of them shall publicly draw one of such names,
- 6 and such person shall be declared elected. The result of such
- 7 drawing shall be entered upon the abstract of votes and duly
- 8 recorded, and a certificate of election issued to such person,
- 9 as provided in this chapter.
- 10 2. If more than the requisite number of candidates for
- 11 United States senator or representative to the United States
- 12 house of representatives are found to have an equal and highest
- 13 number of votes, a special election shall be held sixty-six
- 14 days after the final canvass or recount, whichever is later,
- 15 in which each such candidate shall be the only candidates on
- 16 the ballot.
- 17 3. If more than the requisite number of candidates for
- 18 a statewide elected office, member of the general assembly,
- 19 member of a board of supervisors, or a partisan office to
- 20 be filled by a vote of the residents of a whole county, are
- 21 found to have an equal and highest number of votes, a special
- 22 election shall be held consistent with section 69.14, in which
- 23 each such candidate shall be the only candidates on the ballot.
- 24 4. If more than the requisite number of presidential
- 25 electors are found to have an equal and the highest number of
- 26 votes, the presidential electors shall be assigned one-half
- 27 to each candidate. If there is an odd number of presidential
- 28 electors, the remaining elector shall be assigned by lot.
- 29 Sec. 29. Section 50.48, subsection 3, Code 2020, is amended
- 30 by adding the following new paragraph:
- 31 NEW PARAGRAPH. c. In addition to the persons listed in
- 32 paragraph "a", the candidate requesting the recount and the
- 33 apparent winning candidate may each submit a request to a
- 34 commissioner from a county other than the county conducting the
- 35 recount to be present at the recount. Such a commissioner may

- 1 report any irregularities observed by the commissioner at any
- 2 time after the election to the state commissioner.
- 3 Sec. 30. Section 50.48, subsection 4, paragraph b, Code
- 4 2020, is amended to read as follows:
- 5 b. Any member of the recount board may at any time during
- 6 the recount proceedings for an election for a statewide elected
- 7 official as defined in section 68B.2, a United States senator,
- 8 or United States representative extend the recount of votes
- 9 cast for the office or nomination in question to any other
- 10 precinct or precincts in the same county, or from which the
- 11 returns were reported to the commissioner responsible for
- 12 conducting the election, without the necessity of posting
- 13 additional bond. The recount proceedings for an election for
- 14 any other office shall include all precincts in which a ballot
- 15 for the election was cast.
- 16 Sec. 31. Section 53.2, subsection 4, Code 2020, is amended
- 17 by adding the following new paragraph:
- 18 NEW PARAGRAPH. d. If an applicant does not have current
- 19 access to the applicant's voter verification number, the
- 20 commissioner shall verify the applicant's identity prior to
- 21 supplying the voter verification number by asking the applicant
- 22 to provide two of the following facts about the applicant:
- 23 (1) Date of birth.
- 24 (2) The last four digits of the applicant's social security
- 25 number, if applicable.
- 26 (3) Residential address.
- 27 (4) Mailing address.
- 28 (5) Middle name.
- 29 Sec. 32. Section 53.10, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code
- 30 2020, is amended to read as follows:
- 31 a. Each person who wishes to vote by absentee ballot at
- 32 the commissioner's office shall first sign an application
- 33 for a ballot including the following information: name,
- 34 current address, voter verification number, and the election
- 35 for which the ballot is requested. The person may report a

- 1 change of address or other information on the person's voter
- 2 registration record at that time. Prior to furnishing a
- 3 ballot, the commissioner shall verify the person's identity
- 4 as provided in section 49.78. The registered voter shall
- 5 immediately mark the ballot; enclose the ballot in a secrecy
- 6 envelope, if necessary, and seal it in the envelope marked
- 7 with the affidavit; subscribe to the affidavit on the reverse
- 8 side of the envelope; and return the absentee ballot to the
- 9 commissioner. The commissioner shall record the numbers
- 10 appearing on the application and affidavit envelope along with
- 11 the name of the registered voter.
- 12 Sec. 33. Section 53.10, subsection 2, Code 2020, is amended
- 13 by adding the following new paragraph:
- 14 NEW PARAGRAPH. Ob. If an unregistered person offering
- 15 to vote an absentee ballot pursuant to this section prior to
- 16 the deadline in section 48A.9 does not have an Iowa driver's
- 17 license, an Iowa nonoperator's identification card, or a voter
- 18 identification number assigned to the voter by the state
- 19 commissioner pursuant to section 47.7, subsection 2, the person
- 20 may satisfy identity and residence requirements as provided in
- 21 section 49.78. This section shall also apply to a registered
- 22 voter casting a ballot pursuant to this section who has not yet
- 23 received a voter verification number.
- 24 Sec. 34. Section 53.18, subsections 2 and 3, Code 2020, are
- 25 amended to read as follows:
- 26 2. a. If the commissioner receives the return envelope
- 27 containing the completed absentee ballot by 5:00 p.m. on the
- 28 Saturday before the election for general elections and by 5:00
- 29 p.m. on the Friday before the election for all other elections,
- 30 the commissioner shall review the affidavit marked on the
- 31 return envelope, if applicable, for completeness or shall open
- 32 the return envelope to review the affidavit for completeness.
- 33 If the affidavit is incomplete, the commissioner shall, within
- 34 twenty-four hours of the time the envelope was received, notify
- 35 the voter of that fact and that the voter may complete the

1 affidavit in person at the office of the commissioner by 5:00 2 p.m. on the day before the election, vote a replacement ballot 3 in the manner and within the time period provided in subsection 4 3, or appear at the voter's precinct polling place on election 5 day and cast a ballot in accordance with section 53.19, 6 subsection 3. If the affidavit lacks the signature of the 7 registered voter, the commissioner shall, within twenty-four 8 hours of the receipt of the envelope, notify the voter of the 9 deficiency and inform the voter that the voter may vote a 10 replacement ballot as provided in subsection 3, cast a ballot 11 as provided in section 53.19, subsection 3, or complete the 12 affidavit in person at the office of the commissioner not later 13 than noon on the Monday following the election, or if the law 14 authorizing the election specifies that the votes be canvassed 15 earlier than the Monday following the election, before the 16 canvass of the election. b. If the commissioner receives the return envelope 17 18 containing the completed absentee ballot after the deadline 19 in paragraph "a", the commissioner shall submit the affidavit 20 to the absentee and special voters precinct board for review. 21 If the absentee and special voters precinct determines that 22 the affidavit is incomplete, the commissioner shall, within 23 twenty-four hours of the determination, notify the voter. If 24 the affidavit lacks the signature of the registered voter, the 25 commissioner shall notify the voter that the voter may complete 26 the affidavit in person at the office of the commissioner 27 not later than noon on the Monday following the election, or 28 if the law authorizing the election specifies that the votes 29 be canvassed earlier than the Monday following the election, 30 before the canvass of the election. If the affidavit envelope or the return envelope marked 31

32 with the affidavit contains a defect that would cause the 33 absentee ballot to be rejected by the absentee and special 34 voters precinct board, the commissioner shall immediately 35 notify the voter of that fact and that the voter's absentee

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- 1 ballot shall not be counted unless the voter requests and
- 2 returns a replacement ballot in the time permitted under
- 3 section 53.17, subsection 2. For the purposes of this section,
- 4 a return envelope marked with the affidavit shall be considered
- 5 to contain a defect if it appears to the commissioner that
- 6 the signature on the envelope has been signed by someone
- 7 other than the registered voter, in comparing the signature
- 8 on the envelope to the signature on record of the registered
- 9 voter named on the envelope. A signature or marking made
- 10 in accordance with section 39.3, subsection 17, shall not
- 11 be considered a defect for purposes of this section. The
- 12 voter may request a replacement ballot in person, in writing,
- 13 or over the telephone. The same serial number that was
- 14 assigned to the records of the original absentee ballot
- 15 application shall be used on the envelope and records of the
- 16 replacement ballot. The envelope marked with the affidavit and
- 17 containing the completed replacement ballot shall be marked
- 18 "Replacement ballot". The envelope marked with the affidavit
- 19 and containing the original ballot shall be marked "Defective"
- 20 and the replacement ballot shall be attached to such envelope
- 21 containing the original ballot and shall be stored in a secure
- 22 place until they are delivered to the absentee and special
- 23 voters precinct board, notwithstanding sections 53.26 and
- 24 53.27.
- Sec. 35. Section 53.18, Code 2020, is amended by adding the
- 26 following new subsection:
- 27 NEW SUBSECTION. 04. For the purposes of this section, a
- 28 return envelope marked with the affidavit shall be considered
- 29 incomplete if the affidavit lacks the registered voter's
- 30 signature. A signature or marking made in accordance with
- 31 section 39.3, subsection 17, shall not cause an affidavit to be
- 32 considered incomplete.
- 33 Sec. 36. Section 58.1, Code 2020, is amended to read as
- 34 follows:
- 35 58.1 Notice grounds.

- 1 The contestant for the office of governor shall, within
- 2 thirty fourteen days after the proclamation of the result of
- 3 the election, deliver to the presiding officer of each house
- 4 of the general assembly a notice of intent to contest, and a
- 5 specification of the grounds of such contest, as provided in
- 6 chapter 62.
- 7 Sec. 37. Section 58.4, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2020, are
- 8 amended to read as follows:
- 9 1. The names of members of each house, except the presiding
- 10 officer and the majority and minority leaders, written on
- 11 similar paper tickets, shall be placed in a box, the names of
- 12 the senators in their presence by their secretary, and the
- 13 names of the representatives in their presence by their clerk.
- 14 2. The secretary of the senate in the presence of the
- 15 senate, and the clerk of the house of representatives in
- 16 the presence of the house, shall draw from their respective
- 17 boxes the names of seven five members each. The majority and
- 18 minority leaders of each house shall also serve on the contest
- 19 court.
- Sec. 38. Section 69.14, Code 2020, is amended to read as
- 21 follows:
- 22 69.14 Special election to fill vacancies.
- 23 l. A special election to fill a vacancy shall be held for a
- 24 representative in Congress, when Congress is in session or will
- 25 convene prior to the next general election, or for a senator or
- 26 representative in the general assembly, when the body in which
- 27 such vacancy exists is in session, or the general assembly will
- 28 convene prior to the next general election, and the governor
- 29 shall order, not later than five days from the date the vacancy
- 30 exists, a special election, giving not less than forty days'
- 31 notice of such election.
- 32 2. In the event the special election is to fill a vacancy
- 33 in the general assembly while it is in session or within
- 34 forty-five days of the convening of any session, the time limit
- 35 provided in this section shall not apply and the governor

- 1 shall order such, not later than five days after the day the
- 2 vacancy occurs, a special election at the earliest practical
- 3 time, giving at least eighteen twenty-one, but no more than
- 4 forty-two, days' notice of the special election. Any special
- 5 election called under this section must be held on a Tuesday
- 6 and shall not be held on the same day as a school election
- 7 within the district.
- 8 Sec. 39. Section 376.5, Code 2020, is amended to read as
- 9 follows:
- 10 376.5 Publication of ballot.
- 11 Notice containing a copy of the ballot for each regular,
- 12 special, primary, or runoff city election must be published by
- 13 the county commissioner of elections as provided in section
- 14 362.3, except that notice of a regular, primary, or runoff
- 15 election may be published not less than four days before the
- 16 date of the election. The published notice must contain shall
- 17 list the names of all candidates, and may not contain any party
- 18 designations. The published notice must contain shall include
- 19 any question to be submitted to the voters. The notice may
- 20 contain one or more facsimiles of the portion of the ballot
- 21 containing the first arrangement of candidates as prescribed
- 22 by section 49.31, subsection 2.
- 23 DIVISION V
- 24 CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE
- 25 Sec. 40. NEW SECTION. 43.17 Disqualification of certain
- 26 candidates.
- 27 A person who files an affidavit of candidacy pursuant to this
- 28 chapter shall not file an affidavit of candidacy pursuant to
- 29 chapter 44 or 45 for the same office in the same election.
- 30 Sec. 41. Section 44.4, subsection 1, Code 2020, is amended
- 31 by adding the following new paragraph:
- 32 NEW PARAGRAPH. c. Notwithstanding paragraph "a",
- 33 nominations for candidates for nonpartisan offices described in
- 34 section 39.21 which are required to be filed in the office of
- 35 the commissioner shall be filed in that office not more than

- 1 ninety-two days nor later than 5:00 p.m. on the sixty-ninth day
- 2 before the date of the general election.
- 3 DIVISION VI
- 4 VOTING RIGHTS OF CERTAIN CONVICTED PERSONS
- 5 Sec. 42. Section 43.18, subsection 9, Code 2020, is amended
- 6 by striking the subsection.
- 7 Sec. 43. Section 43.67, subsection 2, paragraph i, Code
- 8 2020, is amended by striking the paragraph.
- 9 Sec. 44. Section 44.3, subsection 2, paragraph i, Code 2020,
- 10 is amended by striking the paragraph.
- Sec. 45. Section 45.3, subsection 9, Code 2020, is amended
- 12 by striking the subsection.
- 13 Sec. 46. Section 48A.6, subsection 1, Code 2020, is amended
- 14 to read as follows:
- 15 l. A person who has been convicted of a felony as defined
- 16 in section 701.7, or convicted of an offense classified as a
- 17 felony under federal law. If the person's rights are later
- 18 restored by the governor, or by the president of the United
- 19 States, pursuant to section 914.8, or by a pardon issued by the
- 20 governor or the president of the United States, the person may
- 21 register to vote.
- 22 Sec. 47. Section 57.1, subsection 2, paragraph c, Code 2020,
- 23 is amended to read as follows:
- 24 c. That prior to the election the incumbent had been duly
- 25 convicted of a felony, as defined in section 701.7, and that
- 26 the judgment had not been reversed, annulled, or set aside, nor
- 27 the incumbent pardoned by the governor or the president of the
- 28 United States or restored to the rights of citizenship by the
- 29 governor under chapter 914 pursuant to section 914.8, at the
- 30 time of the election.
- 31 Sec. 48. Section 123.3, subsection 40, paragraph d, Code
- 32 2020, is amended to read as follows:
- d. The person has not been convicted of a felony. However,
- 34 if the person's conviction of a felony occurred more than five
- 35 years before the date of the application for a license or

- 1 permit, and if the person's rights of citizenship have been
- 2 restored by the governor pursuant to sections 914.1 through
- 3 914.6, the administrator may determine that the person is of
- 4 good moral character notwithstanding such conviction.
- 5 Sec. 49. Section 161A.5, subsection 3, paragraph b, Code
- 6 2020, is amended to read as follows:
- 7 b. Every candidate shall file with the nomination papers
- 8 an affidavit stating the candidate's name, the candidate's
- 9 residence, that the person is a candidate and is eligible for
- 10 the office of commissioner, and that if elected the candidate
- 11 will qualify for the office. The affidavit shall also state
- 12 that the candidate is aware that the candidate is disqualified
- 13 from holding office if the candidate has been convicted of a
- 14 felony or other infamous crime and the candidate's rights have
- 15 not been restored by the governor or by the president of the
- 16 United States.
- 17 Sec. 50. Section 277.4, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code
- 18 2020, is amended to read as follows:
- 19 b. Signers of nomination petitions shall include their
- 20 addresses and the date of signing, and must reside in the same
- 21 director district as the candidate if directors are elected
- 22 by the voters of a director district, rather than at-large.
- 23 A person may sign nomination petitions for more than one
- 24 candidate for the same office, and the signature is not invalid
- 25 solely because the person signed nomination petitions for
- 26 one or more other candidates for the office. The petition
- 27 shall be filed with the affidavit of the candidate being
- 28 nominated, stating the candidate's name, place of residence,
- 29 that such person is a candidate and is eligible for the office
- 30 the candidate seeks, and that if elected the candidate will
- 31 qualify for the office. The affidavit shall also state that
- 32 the candidate is aware that the candidate is disqualified from
- 33 holding office if the candidate has been convicted of a felony
- 34 or other infamous crime and the candidate's rights have not
- 35 been restored by the governor or by the president of the United

1 States.

- 2 Sec. 51. Section 376.4, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code
- 3 2020, is amended to read as follows:
- 4 b. The petition must include the affidavit of the individual
- 5 for whom it is filed, stating the individual's name, the
- 6 individual's residence, that the individual is a candidate and
- 7 eligible for the office, and that if elected the individual
- 8 will qualify for the office. The affidavit shall also state
- 9 that the candidate is aware that the candidate is disqualified
- 10 from holding office if the candidate has been convicted of a
- 11 felony or other infamous crime and the candidate's rights have
- 12 not been restored by the governor or by the president of the
- 13 United States.
- 14 Sec. 52. Section 914.2, Code 2020, is amended to read as
- 15 follows:
- 16 914.2 Right of application.
- 17 Except as otherwise provided in section 902.2 or 914.8, a
- 18 person convicted of a criminal offense has the right to make
- 19 application to the board of parole for recommendation or to
- 20 the governor for a reprieve, pardon, commutation of sentence,
- 21 remission of fines or forfeitures, or restoration of rights of
- 22 citizenship at any time following the conviction.
- 23 Sec. 53. Section 914.6, subsection 3, Code 2020, is amended
- 24 to read as follows:
- In the case of a remission of fines and forfeitures,
- 26 restoration of rights of citizenship other than the right to
- 27 register to vote and to vote, or a pardon, commutation of
- 28 sentence, or reprieve, if the person is not in custody, one
- 29 copy of the executive instrument shall be delivered to the
- 30 person and one copy to the clerk of the district court where
- 31 the judgment is of record. A list of the restorations of
- 32 rights of citizenship issued by the governor shall be delivered
- 33 to the state registrar of voters at least once each month.
- 34 Sec. 54. NEW SECTION. 914.8 Restoration of right to
- 35 register and to vote.

- A person convicted of a felony criminal offense who has
- 2 been discharged from probation under section 907.9, discharged
- 3 from parole or work release under section 906.15, or who is
- 4 released from confinement under section 902.6 because the
- 5 person has completed the person's term of confinement, shall
- 6 have the right to register to vote and to vote as provided in
- 7 this section.
- 8 2. Upon discharge from confinement or supervision, the
- 9 department of corrections or judicial district department of
- 10 correctional services, whichever is applicable, shall provide
- 11 written notice to the inmate, parolee, or probationer of the
- 12 person's discharge which shall include a voter registration
- 13 form and a statement that the person's right to register to
- 14 vote and to vote is restored. The notice shall also inform the
- 15 person that when first registering to vote after discharge, the
- 16 person must present the discharge notice to the commissioner of
- 17 registration.
- 18 DIVISION VII
- 19 FELON VOTER DATABASE MAINTENANCE
- 20 Sec. 55. NEW SECTION. 48A.7B Felony database maintenance
- 21 activities.
- 22 l. A database maintained by the state commissioner that
- 23 lists the persons who have been convicted of a felony shall be
- 24 reviewed and verified to be correct before the first day on
- 25 which absentee ballots may be mailed in each general election,
- 26 and one half of the database shall be verified to be correct by
- 27 July 1 of each year.
- 28 2. Only a person whose conviction of a felony is verified
- 29 shall remain in the database. The judicial branch shall
- 30 provide any assistance necessary for the verification of felony
- 31 convictions.
- 32 3. After completing the database verification required by
- 33 subsection 1, the state commissioner shall, by the first week
- 34 of the next regular session of the general assembly, submit a
- 35 report to the general assembly containing all of the following:

- a. The number of registered voters who appeared on the list
 2 of felons in error.
- 3 b. The number of persons who attempted to vote but were
- 4 prohibited from voting because of an error on the list of
- 5 felons.
- 6 c. A description of how the state commissioner intends to 7 prevent future errors in the database.
- 8 Sec. 56. Section 48A.30, Code 2020, is amended by adding the 9 following new subsection:
- 10 NEW SUBSECTION. 3. If a registered voter's registration
- 11 is canceled pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph "d", and it is
- 12 discovered that the registered voter was erroneously identified
- 13 as having been convicted of a felony as defined in section
- 14 701.7, or conviction of an offense classified as a felony under
- 15 federal law, the commissioner shall notify the registered voter
- 16 of the error, and shall reinstate the registration at the
- 17 last-known address of the registered voter if that address is
- 18 within the county of the commissioner.
- 19 DIVISION VIII
- 20 ELECTION SYSTEMS SECURITY
- 21 Sec. 57. ELECTION SYSTEMS SECURITY.
- 22 1. The state commissioner of elections shall adopt rules
- 23 requiring each county commissioner of elections to do all of
- 24 the following:
- 25 a. Become or remain a member of the election infrastructure
- 26 information sharing and analysis center.
- 27 b. Request the following services provided by the United
- 28 States department of homeland security:
- 29 (1) Vulnerability scanning.
- 30 (2) Risk and vulnerability assessment.
- 31 (3) Remote penetration testing.
- 32 (4) Validated architectural design review.
- 33 (5) Cyber threat hunt.
- 34 (6) Tabletop exercise.
- 35 (7) Physical security assessment.

- 1 c. Review the handbook for elections infrastructure
- 2 security, or other framework approved by the state commissioner
- 3 of elections, and create an elections infrastructure security
- 4 assessment and incident response plan. The state commissioner
- 5 of elections may require a county commissioner of elections
- 6 to submit the assessment or plan to the state commissioner of
- 7 elections for review. Information shared pursuant to this
- 8 paragraph shall remain confidential.
- 9 d. Use transport layer security or secure socket layer
- 10 certificates for all publicly facing and internal web-based
- 11 applications.
- 12 e. Consider participating in the cloudflare athenian
- 13 project.
- 14 f. Consider using google project shield.
- 15 g. Use a domain name ending in ".gov" for each
- 16 elections-related internet site and all elections-related
- 17 official electronic mail communications.
- 18 h. Conduct annual training on election cybersecurity and
- 19 physical security.
- 20 i. Require each employee, vendor, and contractor that
- 21 performs services that require access to personal information
- 22 relates to computer networks, information systems, databases,
- 23 or secure facilities of the commissioner or the state
- 24 commissioner of elections under circumstances that would permit
- 25 modifications to such systems, or involve unsupervised access
- 26 to secure facilities, to undergo a criminal background check.
- 27 j. Comply with the center for internet security guide for
- 28 ensuring security in elections technical procurements.
- 29 k. Use domain-based message authentication, reporting, and
- 30 conformance to prevent electronic mail spoofing.
- 31 l. Participate in phishing assessments arranged by the
- 32 state commissioner of elections. A county commissioner of
- 33 elections may participate in additional phishing assessments.
- 34 m. Participate in the services offered by the information
- 35 security division of the office of the chief information

- 1 officer or similar services.
- 2 n. Provide the state commissioner of elections with
- 3 information relating to critical personnel who have a role in
- 4 elections administration or security.
- 5 o. Remediation requirements for all critical or high-risk
- 6 vulnerabilities identified by any assessment.
- 7 p. Prohibiting the use of personal electronic mail
- 8 addresses in the conduct of elections-related business.
- 9 q. Requirements for county information technology
- 10 infrastructure that is used to access or conduct any
- 11 elections-related business.
- 12 r. Requirements for the security and verification of social
- 13 media accounts by county commissioners of elections.
- 2. The state commissioner of elections shall do all of the
- 15 following:
- 16 a. Ensure that all computers used by the state commissioner
- 17 of elections and employees are fully updated.
- 18 b. Implement multifactor authentication for all web-based
- 19 applications available to election officials.
- 20 c. Require usage of intrusion detection devices by all
- 21 counties.
- 22 d. Investigate implementation of security information and
- 23 event management services for elections-related computer and
- 24 network systems.
- 25 3. The state commissioner of elections may adopt rules for
- 26 the regulation of county offices other than the office of the
- 27 county commissioner of elections if the network or internet
- 28 site infrastructure of the county does not allow the network
- 29 or internet site segmentation of the office of the county
- 30 commissioner of elections.
- 31 Sec. 58. IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT. Section 25B.2, subsection
- 32 3, shall not apply to this division of this Act.
- 33 DIVISION IX
- 34 EFFECTIVE DATE
- 35 Sec. 59. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of

- 1 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.
- 2 EXPLANATION
- The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
- 5 This bill relates to voting and the conduct of elections.
- 6 DIVISION I ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS. This division
- 7 requires all petitions relating to any elective office,
- 8 election, or the administration of elections to include the
- 9 printed name, signature, address, and phone number of the
- 10 person responsible for circulating each page of the petition.
- 11 The bill requires all ballots to include the seal of the
- 12 county auditor of the county of the county commissioner of
- 13 elections responsible for printing the ballot. The seal of
- 14 the county auditor shall contain the name of the county, the
- 15 word "county", and the word "Iowa", and may contain the word
- 16 "auditor". The seal shall not contain the name of the auditor
- 17 or any elected official.
- 18 The bill allows a county commissioner of registration to
- 19 cancel a voter's registration if the commissioner receives
- 20 notice of the voter's death from the federal social security
- 21 administration.
- 22 The bill sets the date for the drawing of lots for the
- 23 arrangement of candidates on a nonpartisan ballot to the
- 24 sixty-eighth day prior to the general election.
- 25 The bill adds provisions regarding the safeguarding of
- 26 confidential information to the oath taken by precinct election
- 27 officials and requires the state commissioner to provide
- 28 training on the handling of confidential information to such
- 29 officials.
- 30 The bill requires a voter who is attesting to the
- 31 identity of a registered voter who is unable to produce voter
- 32 identification to first provide proof of the attesting voter's
- 33 identity.
- The bill requires the state commissioner of elections to
- 35 order election audits prior to all elections other than general

- 1 elections.
- 2 The bill requires a county commissioner of elections who
- 3 receives an incomplete application for an absentee ballot to
- 4 contact the voter and obtain the missing information directly
- 5 from the voter. A county commissioner of elections shall only
- 6 use the voter registration system to obtain such information
- 7 if all other methods have been exhausted. The bill removes a
- 8 provision allowing a county commissioner of elections to obtain
- 9 such information by the best means available.
- 10 The bill allows a registered voter who becomes a patient,
- 11 tenant, or resident of a hospital, assisted living program,
- 12 or health care facility in the county where the voter is
- 13 registered to vote after the deadline for making a written
- 14 application for an absentee ballot to request an absentee
- 15 ballot during that period, including election day. Current law
- 16 allows a person who becomes so confined within three days prior
- 17 to the date of an election to request an absentee ballot.
- 18 The bill removes a special deadline for the receipt of
- 19 petitions for ballot propositions to approve the conduct of
- 20 gambling games in a county. The bill requires such petitions
- 21 to be submitted as required for other petitions.
- 22 The bill changes the withdrawal deadline for candidates for
- 23 school district office from 35 days before the election to 25
- 24 days before the election.
- 25 The bill repeals a section of 2017 Iowa Acts, chapter 155,
- 26 that was not codified and is inconsistent with current law.
- 27 The bill removes a provision making the willful false
- 28 swearing of an affidavit a fraudulent practice. Such conduct
- 29 remains election misconduct in the first degree.
- 30 DIVISION II PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROCEDURES.
- 31 This division of the bill relates to the process for amending
- 32 the Iowa constitution. The bill requires the commissioner
- 33 of elections to summarize proposed constitutional amendments
- 34 and public measures and to post the full text of such proposed
- 35 constitutional amendments and public measures within voting

- 1 booths. Current law allows the commissioner of elections
- 2 to summarize proposed constitutional amendments and public
- 3 measures.
- 4 DIVISION III MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS. This division of
- 5 the bill relates to various changes to the Code.
- 6 The bill changes the rate of compensation for presidential
- 7 electors from \$5 per day to one-half of the per diem rate set by
- 8 the federal general services administration.
- 9 The bill changes the time at which the senate shall organize
- 10 as a court of impeachment from forthwith after the hour of
- 11 final adjournment to as soon as practicable. The bill also
- 12 changes the rate of compensation for members serving on a court
- 13 of impeachment to the same rate as for members serving in a
- 14 special session of the general assembly if the general assembly
- 15 is not in regular session. If the general assembly is in
- 16 regular session, the bill provides that members shall receive
- 17 no additional compensation.
- 18 DIVISION IV CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS. This division of the
- 19 bill relates to the conduct of elections.
- 20 The bill alters the deadlines for filing a nomination
- 21 petition, withdrawing a nomination, and filling a ballot
- 22 vacancy.
- 23 The bill makes technical changes to the provisions of law
- 24 governing the content of notices of elections.
- 25 The bill requires any election other than a presidential
- 26 election or an election for a nonpartisan office that results
- 27 in a tie to go to a special election. A tied election for
- 28 president shall result in the electors being split between the
- 29 candidates.
- 30 The bill allows a candidate requesting a recount to request
- 31 the presence of a county commissioner of elections from another
- 32 county at the recount. Such a commissioner may report any
- 33 irregularities observed by the commissioner at any time after
- 34 the election to the state commissioner of elections.
- 35 The bill requires a recount for an election other than a

- 1 statewide election to include all precincts in which a ballot
- 2 for the contested election was cast.
- 3 The bill allows an unregistered person seeking to vote
- 4 absentee at the office of a county commissioner of elections
- 5 prior to the voter registration deadline who does not have an
- 6 Iowa driver's license, nonoperator's identification card, or
- 7 voter identification number to vote absentee by satisfying the
- 8 voter identification requirements of Code section 49.78.
- 9 The bill changes the process by which absentee ballots
- 10 lacking a signature are verified. If such a ballot is received
- 11 by 5:00 p.m. on the Saturday before a general election or by
- 12 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before any other election, the county
- 13 commissioner of elections must contact the voter within 24
- 14 hours and inform the voter how to remediate the ballot. A
- 15 ballot received after the applicable deadline is sent to the
- 16 absentee and special voters precinct board for review. If the
- 17 absentee and special voters precinct board determines that the
- 18 affidavit is incomplete, the commissioner shall inform the
- 19 voter within 24 hours how the ballot may be remediated if the
- 20 ballot lacks a signature.
- 21 The bill alters the timeline for contesting a gubernatorial
- 22 election and the makeup of a contest court for such a
- 23 challenge.
- 24 The bill alters the timeline for holding a special election
- 25 to fill a vacant office and prohibits a person who has ever
- 26 been removed from office from being appointed to fill a
- 27 vacancy.
- 28 DIVISION V CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE. This division
- 29 prohibits a person who files an affidavit of candidacy to be
- 30 a partisan candidate for an office in an election from filing
- 31 an affidavit of candidacy to be a candidate for a nonparty
- 32 political organization or to be nominated by petition for the
- 33 same office in the same election.
- 34 The bill changes the filing deadline for nominations for
- 35 nonpartisan offices which are required to be filed in the

- 1 office of the county commissioner of elections from not later
- 2 than 5:00 p.m. on the 74th day before the first Tuesday after
- 3 the first Monday in June in each even-numbered year to not
- 4 later than 5:00 p.m. on the 69th day before the date of the
- 5 general election.
- 6 DIVISION VI VOTING RIGHTS OF CERTAIN CONVICTED PERSONS.
- 7 This division makes restoration of the right to register
- 8 to vote and to vote automatic upon a person's release from
- 9 probation, parole, or work release. By operation of law,
- 10 persons whose rights have been restored are eligible to run for
- 11 elective office.
- 12 The bill requires the department of corrections or the
- 13 judicial district department of correctional services to
- 14 provide written notice upon discharge from confinement or
- 15 supervision that a person's voting rights are restored and
- 16 that the person must provide written notice of discharge when
- 17 registering to vote. The notice shall also include a voter
- 18 registration form.
- 19 DIVISION VII FELON VOTER DATABASE MAINTENANCE. This
- 20 division relates to the database of persons prohibited from
- 21 voting or registering to vote due to conviction of a felony.
- 22 The bill requires the state commissioner of elections to verify
- 23 the accuracy of the database before the first day on which
- 24 absentee ballots may be mailed for each general election, and
- 25 to have verified the accuracy of 50 percent of the database
- 26 by July 1 of each year. After verifying the database, the
- 27 state commissioner of elections must submit a report to the
- 28 general assembly by the first week of the next regular session
- 29 of the general assembly regarding errors in the database. The
- 30 bill requires the judicial branch to cooperate in verification
- 31 efforts.
- 32 The bill requires a county commissioner of elections who
- 33 discovers that a person's voter registration has erroneously
- 34 been canceled due to an error in the felon voter database to
- 35 inform the person of the error, and to reinstate the person's

- 1 registration at the last-known address of the person if the
- 2 address is within the county of the county commissioner of
- 3 elections.
- 4 DIVISION VIII ELECTION SYSTEMS SECURITY. This division
- 5 relates to election systems security. The bill requires the
- 6 state commissioner of elections to adopt rules requiring county
- 7 commissioners of elections to take certain actions relating
- 8 to election security, including using services provided by
- 9 the United States department of homeland security, using
- 10 certain third-party security services and guides, and requiring
- 11 background checks for certain employees and contractors.
- 12 The bill requires the state commissioner of elections to
- 13 ensure that all computers used by the state commissioner
- 14 of elections and employees are fully updated, implement
- 15 multifactor authentication for all web-based applications
- 16 available to election officials, required usage of
- 17 intrusion detection devices by all counties, and investigate
- 18 implementation of security information and event management
- 19 services for elections-related computer and network systems.
- 20 The division may include a state mandate as defined in Code
- 21 section 25B.3. The bill makes inapplicable Code section 25B.2,
- 22 subsection 3, which would relieve a political subdivision from
- 23 complying with a state mandate if funding for the cost of
- 24 the state mandate is not provided or specified. Therefore,
- 25 political subdivisions are required to comply with any state
- 26 mandate included in the division.
- 27 DIVISION IX EFFECTIVE DATE. The bill takes effect upon
- 28 enactment.